

The Sound of Youth



Teens and young adults gather at the annual Christian rock music festival, Heavenfest. Longmont, CO. 2010.

By Rikki Visser

Thunderous, heavy bass drum beat, rapid shredding guitar riffs, loud, screaming vocals, and a crowd of black-clad, unkempt, and unruly fans are all characteristics of a musical style that seems, frankly, a bit scary to the mainstream. Rock concerts have been known to incite riots and instill a sense of rebellion and anger in their attendees, effects which have led to parents banning the music from their homes and forbidding their children exposure to its influence. However, teenagers and young adults often develop a much more innocuous relationship with these hard and heavy musical styles. These photos are an examination of the more innocent side of rock and roll music in young lives, and show the sense of camaraderie and community that develop around music, as well as the positive influence it stands to make on some youths' futures.



Right to left: Mike Baldwin (18), Jeremy Wheeler (16), and Lane Munroe (15) rocking out at their first-ever band practice. Bailey, CO. 2010.



The crowd goes wild for Alesana at The Van's Warped Tour. Denver, CO. 2010.



Jeremy Wheeler, 16, shows off at band practice. Bailey, CO. 2011.



A group of lucky teenagers are privileged to hang out with Miss May I in their limousine after the show. Denver, CO. 2010.



Zach Bauman, 18, relaxes to the feel of the instrument he has known since the age of six. Conifer, CO. 2011.



Eyes Set To Kill make goofy faces as they pose with fan Lane Munroe after their performance at the Van's Warped Tour. Denver, CO. 2010.



For four years, Jeremy Wheeler has received a guitar for his birthday. This year he will make his own instead as he studies to be a guitar luthier. Conifer, CO. 2011.



Samantha Powers and Derek Campbell of The Distant perform at the release of their first CD. Denver, CO. 2011.

Works Cited

Barrett, Rachelle. "The Distant Performs." Photograph. *Facebook.com*. Facebook, 12 Nov. 2011.

Web. 15 Nov. 2011.

Emerick, Jessica. "Jeremy on Guitar." Photograph. *Facebook.com*. Facebook, 8 Sept. 2010.

Web. 15 Nov. 2011.

Emerick, Jessica. "Band Practice." Photograph. *Facebook.com*. Facebook, 8 Sept. 2010. Web. 15

Nov. 2011.

Jeremy's Children. Personal photograph by Rikki Visser. 16 Nov. 2011.

Lane at Warped Tour with Eyes Set To Kill. Personal photograph by Rikki Visser. 8 Aug. 2010.

"Teens in a Limousine with Miss May I." Photograph. *Facebook.com*. Facebook, n. d. Web. 15

Nov. 2011.

Powers, Samantha. "Heavenfest 2010." Photograph. *Facebook.com*. Facebook, 8 Sept. 2010.

Web. 15 Nov. 2011.

Powers, Samantha. "Alesana at Warped." Photograph. *Facebook.com*. Facebook, 8 Aug. 2010.

Web. 15 Nov. 2011.

Zach Playing Guitar on the Bed. Personal Photograph by Rikki Visser. 14 Nov. 2011.